

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00

MBFR-03 SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-10 SS-15 ACDA-19 IO-12

OIC-04 OMB-01 EB-11 RSR-01 ABF-01 /156 W

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R 060840 Z APR 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9648

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 2852

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1711

E. O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE - COST- SHARING

HELSINKI FOR USDEL MPT

REF: STATE 62493

SUMMARY. AT SENIOR POLADS MEETING APRIL 5, US REP DREW FULLY ON REFTEL AND STRESSED OUR STRONG OPPOSITION TO UN-TYPE COST- SHARING FORMULA FOR CSCE. REACTIONS TO US STATEMENT SHOWED SOME WILLINGNESS TO MOVE AWAY FROM UN COST- SHARING FORMULA AND TO ACCEPT EQUAL SHARING IN PRINCIPLE PROVIDED EXCEPTIONS WERE MADE FOR SMALLER AND POORER COUNTRIES. ACTION REQUESTED: SUBJECT WILL COME UP AGAIN AT APRIL 11 SPC MEETING WITH MPT EXPERTS, AT WHICH TIME WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S FURTHER GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. US REP OPENED DISCUSSION AND DREW FULLY ON PARAS 1-3 OF REFTEL. RECALLING HIS STATEMENT AT PREVIOUS SPC DISCUSSION (USNATO 1548), US REP SAID WASHINGTON HAD CONFIRMED OUR STRONG OPPOSITION TO UN- TYPE FORMULA. ITALIAN, UK, AND FRG DELEGATIONS SUPPORTED US POSITION
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BUT BELIEVED THAT EXCEPTIONS SHOULD BE MADE AT LEAST FOR MINI- STATES.

2. TURKISH, GREEK, AND ICELANDIC REPS REITERATED THEIR AUTHORITIES' STRONG PREFERENCE FOR WEIGHTED COST- SHARING FORMULA, BUT NOT RPT NOT NECESSARILY UN FORMULA. ALTHOUGH EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO US PROPOSAL, PORTUGUESE REP STRESSED THAT LISBON WAS FLEXIBLE AND WISHED REACH ALLIED CONSENSUS.. CANADIAN AND UK REPS STRESSED NEED REACH CONSENSUS PRIOR TO APRIL 25 MEETING OF MPT WORKING GROUP ON FINANCES AT WHICH TIME DELEGATIONS WOULD BE EXPECTED TO STATE POSITIONS. GREEK REP ADDED THAT ATHENS WAS ALSO FLEXIBLE AND WISHED REACH AGREEMENT WITHIN ALLIANCE. NORWEGIAN REP MADE SIMILAR POINT.

3. US REP SUGGESTED THAT IF PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL SHARES WERE GENERALLY ACCEPTED, HE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT WASHINGTON CONSIDER EXCEPTIONS FOR MINI- STATES. TURKISH, GREEK, AND ICELANDIC REPS SAID THIS WOULD NOT SUFFICE, HOWEVER, AND DISCUSSION TERMINATED TO BE RESUMED APRIL 11.

4. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE DISCUSSION IN NATO HAS GONE AS FAR AS IT CAN UNLESS WE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT EXCEPTIONS TO EQUAL SHARING PRINCIPLE CONSIDERABLY BEYOND THAT MENTIONED PARA 6 REFTTEL. DURING APRIL 5 MEETING, UK REP SUGGESTED THAT GNP, RATHER THAN POPULATION, BE USED TO ESTABLISH CATEGORY OF STATES PAYING LESS THAN FULL SHARE. FOLLOWING MEETING, UK REP SUGGESTED PRIVATELY THAT CUT- OFF FIGURE OF US \$12 BILLION BE USED. STATES WITH GNP' S BELOW THAT FIGURE WOULD BE EXEMPTED FROM PAYING FULL SHARE, WHICH HE NOTED WOULD HAVE EXCLUDED ICELAND, TURKEY, GREECE AND PORTUGAL IN 1970. FRG REP SAID BONN HAD COME UP WITH SUGGESTION WHEREBY STATES WOULD PAY ACCORDING TO A WEIGHTED FORMULA WHICH GAVE LARGE STATES COEFFICIENT OF 6, SMALLER STATES COEFFICIENT OF 3, AND MINI- STATES COEFFICIENT OF 1. ONE PROBLEM NOTED BY FRG REP WAS DETERMINING INTO WHICH CATEGORY EACH STATE FELL. FORMULA ADVANCED BY UK REP STRIKES US AS POSSIBILITY WHICH MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE ON AD HOC BASIS IN LIMITED CASE OF CSCE. HOWEVER, IF WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT FORMULA WHICH PRESERVES PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL PAYMENTS WHILE MAKING EXCEPTIONS FOR BOTH MINI- STATES AND POORER ALLIES, WE BELIEVE FOCUS OF OUR EFFORTS SHOULD BE SHIFTED AWAY FROM NATO TO BILATERAL APPROACHES TO ALLIES OPPOSED TO EQUAL SHARING.

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